

#185

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GRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

COUNTRY

SOUTH VIETNAM

REPORT NO.

SUBJECT

RECOMMENDATION BY CABINET OFFICERS THAT
NHU BE MADE PRIME MINISTER

DATE DISTR.

15 OCTOBER 1963

PRECEDENCE

ROUTINE

DATE OF
INFO.

REFERENCES

IN 39851

PLACE &
DATE ACQ.
APPRAISAL

VIETNAM, SAIGON

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE

1. SUMMARY.

VICE PRESIDENT NGUYEN NGOC THO AT A MEETING OF CABINET OFFICERS IN EARLY OCTOBER IT WAS DECIDED TO RECOMMEND TO PRESIDENT DIEM THAT NGO DINH NHU BE APPOINTED PRIME MINISTER. THIS PROPOSAL WOULD REQUIRE A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WHICH WOULD BE VOTED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

2. VICE PRESIDENT THO IN EARLY OCTOBER HE HAD CALLED A MEETING OF ALL CABINET MEMBERS TO

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STATE/INR	DIA	ARMY/ACSI	NAVY	AIR	JCS	SECDEF/ISA	NIC	AID	USIA	OCI	ONE	OCR	ORR	QA	OO
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DISCUSS THE STATUS OF NGO DINH NHU IN THE GOVERNMENT. THO
SAID THAT THE CABINET DECIDED TO RECOMMEND TO PRESIDENT DIEM THAT
NHU BE APPOINTED PRIME MINISTER, REASONING THAT IF THE PRESIDENT
DID NOT INTEND TO REDUCE NHU'S INFLUENCE IN GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,
THE LATTER'S APPOINTMENT TO AN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT POST WOULD
AT LEAST MAKE HIM ACCOUNTABLE FOR HIS ACTIONS.

2. [REDACTED] IF THE PRESIDENT ACCEPTED
THIS SUGGESTION, A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WOULD BE REQUIRED BUT
THAT THIS WOULD POSE NO PROBLEM AS THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WOULD
VOTE THE CHANGE WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

3. [REDACTED] DISSEM. STATE ARMY NAVY AIR USMACV MAAG USOM
USIS 9TH FLD STA 2ND AIR DIV CINPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF.

END OF MESSAGE

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FORM 10-1

USE PREVIOUS
EDITIONS

M/G. 2-43

(15-20-44-47)

CONTINUATION OF TDCS INFORMATION REPORT